GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:69
ANSWERED ON:21.11.2016
Promotion of Wildlife and Forest Tourism
Patole Shri Nanabhau Falgunrao;Tadas Shri Ramdas Chandrabhanji

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government plans to develop wildlife and forest tourism in the country, if so, the details thereof along with its scope in various States, State/UT-wise including Maharashtra;
(b) whether the Government has received any proposals in this regard from the various State Governments or public representatives and if so, the details thereof and the status of the said proposals;
(c) the funds allocated for the purpose during the last three years and the current year, year-wise;
(d) the other steps taken by the Government to develop these forests as tourist sites; and
(e) the time by which these places are likely to be developed under wildlife and forest tourism?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TOURISM (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT IN REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.*69 ANSWERED ON 21.11.2016 REGARING PROMOTION OF WILDLIFE AND FOREST TOURISM.

(a) to (d): India has huge tourism potential including wildlife and forest tourism in the country including in the State of Maharashtra. Development and promotion of tourist destinations and products including Wildlife & Forest Tourism is primarily the responsibility of the respective State Government/Union Territory (UT) Administration.

However, for development of tourism infrastructure in the country, the Ministry of Tourism has launched the Swadesh Darshan scheme-Integrated Development of Theme-Based Tourist Circuits, in 2014-15.

Wildlife Circuit has been identified as one of the thirteen thematic circuits for development under this operative scheme.

The Ministry has sanctioned following projects in the year 2015-16 for the Wildlife Circuit under Swadesh Darshan scheme:
<pre>
State Name of Project Amount Sanctioned
(Rs. in Crore)
Madhya Pradesh Development of Wildlife Circuit at Panna- Mukundpur- Sanjay- Dubri-Bandhavgarh-Kanha-Mukki-Pench 92.22
Assam Manas-Pobitora-Nameri-Kaziranga-Dibru-Saikhowa as Wildlife Circuit in Assam 95.67
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(e): The completion period of projects sanctioned under the Swadesh Darshan scheme varies from 18 to 36 months.
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